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cont

G. remembering the control device that issued the respective command in only in F.

REMARKS

1. With respect to the objection to Claim 126, the Claim has been amended to include the Examiner's suggestion.

2-3. With respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph:

Claim 109 has been amended to cancel "respective" in step B and to cancel "each" in step C.

Claim 110 has been amended to recite "each of the control devices - - of step A- -" to clarify the language thereon.

With respect to Claims 111-117 and 119-120, "of the" camera has been changed to - - of a - - camera in each of the claims to correct the language thereof.

Claim 118 has been amended to change "the" camera to - - a - - camera.

Claim 121 has been amended to cancel "other" in line 3, and to change "the to - -a- - in line 7.

Claim 122 has been amended to cancel "other in line 4.

Claim 123 has been amended change "the" to - -a- - in lines 2 and 4.

Claim 124 has been amended to recite "- - a - - control device- - of step B - -".

Claim 125 has been amended to recite "a control device - - of step H - -" to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 126 has been amended in step C to recite "- - a - - field of view of - - each of - - at least two cameras" to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 127 has been amended to recite "each of the- - at least two - - control devices" to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 129 has been amended to change "the" zoom to - - a - - zoom to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 134 has been amended to recite "one or more - - of the at least two - - control devices" to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 137 has been amended to recite "all - - of the at least two - - control devices - - when a - - control device" to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 141 has been amended to change "the" control device to - - a - - to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 143 has been amended to cancel “another” and insert - - a - - in line 2 and to cancel “the other” and insert - - another - - in line 3 to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 144 has been amended to recite “a camera - - of step K - - “to clarify the language thereof.

Claims 146 and 147 have been amended to change “any” control device to - - a - - control device.

Claim 148 has been amended to change “the” camera to - - a - - camera.

Claim 149 has been amended to change “from other control devices” to “from - - each - -control - - device - -“.

Claims 150-152 have been amended to change “the” control device to - - a - - control device”.

Claim 154 has been amended to recite “- - a - - control device”; “- - another - - control device “; and” the [one] control device - - of step J - -“ to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 155 has been amended to change “the” control device and “the” camera to - - a - - and recites “the command - - of step J- -“ in line 3 to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 156 has been amended to recite “one or more - - of the at least two - - control - - devices - -“ in step L and to recite “selecting - - a - - control device - - to - - transmit” in step M.

Claims 157 and 158 have been amended to change “the” control device to - -a- - control device.

Claim 160 has been amended to recite “groups of - - the at least two - - control devices” in step N and to recite” control devices - - established in step N- -“ in step O.

Claim 161 has been amended to change “the” control device to - -a- - control device.

Claim 162 has been amended to recite “with - -a- - group of control - - devices- - to which - - a - - control device” to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 163 has been amended in line 3 to recite “said - - at least one - - camera” to clarify the language thereof.

Claim 166 has been amended in step B to recite “- - a camera - - with a [respective] control device. Step C has been amended to recite “remembering - - the variables that define - - each field of view of - -a- - camera”. Steps D and E have been amended to change “the” control device and camera to - -a- -.

Accordingly, it is believed that all 35 U.S.C. 112 problems have been resolved in the cited claims.

4-5 Applicants do not believe that Claims 109, 126, 163, and 166 (as now amended) are anticipated by Uehara ‘543 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Claim 109 has been amended to recite,

inter alia, in step G: “remembering the control device that issued the respective command in step D”, thus clearly defining over Uehara, which recites no such step or capability. Claim 126 has also been amended in a similar manner in new step H. Claim 163 has been amended to incorporate the substance of Claim 165, which includes “remembering the identity information” of each control device. Claim 166 has been amended in a similar manner in new step G.

Accordingly, Claims 109 (Amended), 126 (Amended), 163 (Amended), and 166 (Amended) are clearly not anticipated by Uehara under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and are believed to be unobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103.

6-7. Applicants believe that Claims 110-125, 127-137, 141-162, and 164-165, as now amended, are patentable under 35 USC 103(a) and not obvious in view of Uehara and Parker '296. Claim 110 now depends on Claim 109 (Amended) which recites in step G: "remembering the control device that issued the respective command in step D." Uehara does not disclose remembering the control device as the Examiner points out. However, Parker '296 also does not disclose this feature contrary to the Examiner's assertion that the Parker reference discloses "remembering the fields of view in the remote controller (col. 2, lines 1-10)." This is far afield from remembering the control device (emphasis added). Claim 110 now recites "issuing commands from each of the control devices of step A to remember a field of view position of a camera." Claim 110, by being dependent upon claim 109 (Amended), which is neither anticipated by Uehara nor obvious in light of Uehara and Parker, is also not taught or suggested by the cited art.

Claims 111-125, 127-137, 141-162 and 164, 165 are believed to be patentable over the art in the same manner as the respective independent claims and the specific steps recited in the dependent claims.

With regard to Claim 127, Claim 126 has been amended in a manner such that it is not anticipated by Uehara and is not obvious even when combined with Parker '296. Claim 127 depends on Claim 126 (Amended) and is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

With regard to Claims 141-162, Claim 141 now depends on Claim 126 (Amended) and is not taught or suggested by the cited art for the reasons stated hereinabove.

With regard to Claims 164-165, Claim 164 now depends on Claim 163 (Amended) which incorporates the subject matter of Claim 165 which has been cancelled. Claim 163 (Amended) now recites "remembering identity information" that identifies

a respective control device. Accordingly, Claim 163 (Amended) and Claim 164 are not anticipated or obvious in view of the cited art.

8. Claims 138-140 are believed to be patentable under 35 USC 103 over Uehara, Parker, and Sano. Claim 138 recites a group of control devices at a single site as contrasted to Sano's plurality of conference sites. Claims 138-140 are directed to the control of audio signals from the control devices being used which are not found in any of the applied prior art. Claim 126 (Amended) recites at least two control devices on which Claims 138-140 depend. In practice there may be several control devices in use and this feature is not found in the prior art.

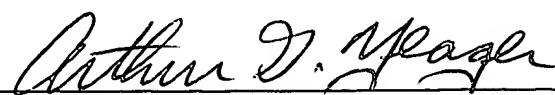
Accordingly, it is believed that Claims 138-140 are not obvious in light of the cited art.

With respect to all the various individually treated claims in the above Office Action, while it may be true that Uehara, Parker, and even Sano disclose some of the features of the claims, it is not at all obvious in light of the cited art that they be employed with the features of other prior art without reference to various methods and steps of the present invention. The presently claimed system employs both identifying and remembering which control device issues what command so as to coordinate the activities of the system users. Accordingly, it is believed that Claims 109 (Amended) - 125, 126 (AMended)-162, 163 (Amended), 164, and Claim 166 (Amended) are not anticipated under 35 USC 102(e) or rendered obvious by any appropriate combination of the cited art under 35 USC 103.

A telephone interview is respectfully requested to resolve any remaining issue prior to any final action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Sept. 7, 2000